

REMARKS

Claims 2, 4-8, and 12 are amended herein to place the claims in better form for appeal. Claims 2 and 4-12 remain pending in the captioned case. Entrance of the amendment is respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

Objections were lodged against claims 2, 4-7 and 12 for informalities. Specifically, claims 2, 4-7, and 12 recited a “device” -- this term is amended herein to “system” as suggested by the Examiner. The status identifier “new” was missing from claim 12 when the claim was added in the previous response -- the status identifier in this response is “currently amended” in order to correct the antecedent basis of the claim. Accordingly, entrance of the amendments herein are believed to obviate the objections.

Specification Objection

An objection was lodged against the specification for an informality with regard to claim 6. In response thereto, claim 6 is amended herein in a manner believed to address the concerns in the office action. Accordingly, entrance of the amendments herein are believed to obviate this objection.

Section 102 Rejections

Claims 2, 6-8, and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,264,795 to Rider (hereinafter “Rider”). In response thereto, Applicants file herewith a Notice of Appeal and will address this rejection in the subsequent Appeal Brief.

Section 103 Rejections

Claims 4 and 9-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rider in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,437,057 to Richley et al. (hereinafter “Richley”) and U.S. Patent No. 6,611,776 to Waters et al. Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rider, Richley, and U.S. Patent No. 5,914,959 to Marchetto et al. In response thereto, Applicants file herewith a Notice of Appeal and will address this rejection in the subsequent Appeal Brief.

CONCLUSION

The present amendment is in response to the final Office Action mailed April 1, 2009. Applicants respectfully request the amendment be entered in order to place the pending claims in better condition for appeal. If the Examiner has any questions, comments, or suggestions, the undersigned attorney earnestly requests a telephone conference.

No fees are required for filing this amendment; however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Daffer McDaniel, LLP Deposit Account No. 50-3268.

Respectfully submitted,

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